

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4216
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
CHIP MANUFACTURING UNITS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is not having sufficient number of chip manufacturing units;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up semi-conductor manufacturing facilities in various parts of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the estimated cost for setting up of such facilities;
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to set up common service centres in various parts of the country;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR.SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (e): At present, there is not sufficient number of chip manufacturing units in the country. A new plant in the private sector with a capital outlay of USD 350 million is coming up at Hyderabad. Further, a consortium of overseas Indians plan to invest USD 3 billion in semiconductor chip manufacturing factory in India, with technology from a leading American chip manufacturer, for which a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between them.

(f) to (h): The government has prepared a draft framework to create an enabling environment with policy interventions and financial support, so that roll out of internet enabled Common Service Centres, especially in rural areas can take place at a faster pace. The government is also in the process of preparing a project report for a Common Service Centres scheme. However, no decision has been taken by the government to set up one lakh Common Service Centres and no specific time frame has been fixed as yet for the same.